



Dear EPA:

Kachemak Bay Conservation Society (KBCS) adamantly opposes the Pebble Mine. KBCS has been following this issue since it became public. Northern Dynasty had already been meeting with then Governor Murkowski for 1 year, behind closed doors.

Alaska has a long history of allowing industry to pollute and write to the rules. The mining industry has a history of over 100 years of leaving many toxic sites with water, land, & air pollution in its wake; Cook Inlet is the only waters in the US which allows the O and G industry to dump it's drilling muds into the ocean; the Exxon Valdez was a disastrous lesson about industry and state complacency; the Drift River Oil Terminal Tank Farm built at the base of the active volcano, Mt. Redoubt is being reconsidered to allow storage of oil after the 2009 Eruption -the list goes on & on. The present governor, Sean Parnell has filed multiple lawsuits against the federal government on many environmental issues including the endangered listings of Cook Inlet beluga whales & polar bears.

Thousands of Alaskans have grave concerns with the states permitting system and we know "waiting for the permitting process" before we change this development would spell disaster to the Bristol Bay world class fisheries and watershed. We have researched mining industry's environmental track record and it is abysmal.

KBCS applauds and supports EPA's scientific assessment of the Bristol Bay Water Shed and we think Pebble Mine could cause permanent, irreversible damage to salmon populations and the watershed. We advise EPA to use its authority under the Clean Water ACT and protect the Bristol Bay Water Shed from large scale mining.

Sincerely,

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